

Appl. No. : 09/810,872
Filed : March 16, 2001

reacting a compound having an amino group with any remaining OPA in the test sample in a second reacting step, the compound being one that reacts with the OPA to produce a second color; and

determining the presence of an excess of OPA in the test sample to the point of interest by observation of a final color of the test sample.

REMARKS

As a result of this preliminary amendment, Claims 8, 9, and 24 are cancelled. Claims 30-32 have been added and Claims 1, 15, 17-19, 25, and 26 have been amended. Accordingly, Claims 1-7, 10-23, and 25-32 are presented for examination. Amendments are made to further clarify the invention. Support is found in the claims as filed. No new matter is being added herewith.

The specific changes to the amended claims are shown on a separate set of pages attaches hereto and entitled VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE, which follows the signature page of this Amendment. On this set of pages, insertions are underlined and deletions are struck through.

Conclusion

Should there be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned agent at the telephone number appearing below. Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: October 17, 2002

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claims 1, 15, 17-19, 25, and 26 have been amended as shown.

Claim 1. (Amended) A method of determining the presence of a point of interest of an aldehyde in a test sample comprising the steps of:

reacting the aldehyde in the test sample with an amount of a compound that reacts with a carbonyl group of the aldehyde in a first reacting step, wherein said amount is sufficient to react with the aldehyde to the point of interest to produce a first color;

reacting a compound having an amino group with any remaining aldehyde in the test sample in a second reacting step, the compound being one that reacts with the aldehyde to produce a second color; and

determining the presence of an excess of aldehyde in the test sample to the point of interest by observation of a final color of the test sample,

wherein the compound having an amino group and the compound that reacts with the carbonyl group of the aldehyde are contacted with the test sample at the same time.

Claim 15. (Amended) A liquid measuring device comprising at least one compartment for determining the presence of a point of interest of an aldehyde in a test sample comprising:

a first compartment having a proximal and distal end which contains an amount of a first compound that reacts with a carbonyl group of the aldehyde in a first reacting step;
; and

a first valve at or near the distal end of the first compartment,

wherein said amount is sufficient to react with the aldehyde to the point of interest to produce a first color.

Claim 17. (Amended) The liquid measuring device of claim 15 further comprising a second compartment in liquid communication with said first compartment by means of a second valve.

Claim 18. (Amended) The liquid measuring device of claim 17, wherein said second valve is a one-way valve.

Claim 19. (Amended) The liquid measuring device of claim 17, wherein said second valve is an on/off valve.

Claim 25. (Amended) The liquid measuring device of claim ~~24~~15, wherein said first valve is a one-way valve.

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Claim 26. (Amended) The liquid measuring device of claim 2415, wherein said first valve is an on/off valve.

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